



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY



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Park Authority Board Creates New Cultural Stewardship Award

The Fairfax County Park Authority Board approved creation of the Mayo Stuntz Cultural Stewardship Award. This award, named in honor of the late, longtime historian, author and chairman of the Sully Foundation, recognizes outstanding service through the stewardship of historic resources and dedication to parks. It also honors significant contributions toward the understanding, preservation, education and interpretation of history in the county.

The Park Board determined that the inaugural award will be presented to the Sully Foundation Ltd., which since 1970 has contributed nearly half a million dollars in support of special projects at Sully Historic Site.

The Sully Foundation has been unwavering in its support of Sully Historic Site over the past 43 years. During difficult fiscal times, the Foundation has always helped with support for projects, equipment and staffing needs.

For example, when Sully sought a historic paint analysis and repainting of the house's original false graining, the Foundation footed the bill and brought in experts. Foundation funding has also helped the site acquire furnishings and personal effects of the Lee family. They have assisted in the interpretation of historic information as well.

Other significant projects supported by the Foundation include:

- Acquiring a water line and public water at the site
- Security and fire detection systems
- New exhibits and program development
- An irrigation system
- Preservation work at the house and outbuildings, as well as grounds
- Staff training opportunities
- Matching funds for grants to provide interactive displays and upgrades for visitor center
- Sponsorship of lecture series and curator exhibits
- Funding for summer interns and part-time gardening assistants

All of these efforts have contributed to the site's accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums.

The award will be presented in November at the Park Authority's volunteer recognition program at the Waterford in Fairfax, Va. For more information about Sully Historic Site visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/sully-historic-site, or call the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.



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